

NEWS RELEASE

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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For Immediate Release

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 10, 2005, **BRADLEY D. HUCSKO**, age 21 of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, pled guilty in United States District Court at Benton to a three count Indictment charging him with manufacturing and possessing counterfeit United States currency. As a part of his plea, HUCSKO admitted to manufacturing over \$40,000 in face value of counterfeit \$10 bills. HUCSKO was arrested by officers of the Carbondale Police Department after passing counterfeit bills a several stores at the University Mall at Carbondale on June 29, 2004. A search of HUCSKO's apartment in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, revealed additional counterfeit currency and computer equipment used in the manufacturing process. That computer equipment was forfeited to the United States as a part of HUCSKO's plea.

Sentencing was set for May 13, 2005, at 1:30 p.m. at the Benton Federal Courthouse. The charges carry a maximum term of 20 years imprisonment, a fine of up to a \$250,000, and a term of 3 years' supervised release to follow incarceration.

Information leading to the filing of the charges was obtained through the cooperative efforts of the United States Secret Service, the Carbondale Police Department, and the Mt. Vernon Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James M. Cutchin.